

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion for Native American Human Remains From the Island of Molokai, HI, in the Possession of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given in accordance with provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 USC 3003(d), of completion of the inventory of Native American human remains from the island of Molokai, HI, that are presently in the possession of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

A detailed inventory and assessment of these human remains has been made by Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History curatorial staff in consultation with representatives of *Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna 'O Hawai'i Nei*.

The human remains consist of two human teeth and two fragments of human teeth. The human remains were donated to the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History in 1927 by Dr. William A. Bryan, Director, Los Angeles County Museum. The human remains were catalogued into the museum as A.1463.27-36 with the description: "box of human teeth from the battle field of Momumi."

Inventory of the human remains and review of accompanying documentation indicate that no known individuals were identifiable. A representative of *Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna 'O Hawai'i Nei* has identified "Momumi" as the site of Mo'omomi on the island of Molokai and stated that the sand dunes of Mo'omomi have long been used as burial grounds for ancestral Native Hawaiians. Reference to the "battlefield of Momumi" is thought to refer to this burial area. The representative of *Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna 'O Hawai'i Nei* has also provided documentation that shows that Bryan and others collected human remains from Mo'omumi.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History have determined that, pursuant to 25 USC 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and present-day Native Hawaiian organizations.

This notice has been sent to officials of *Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna 'O Hawai'i Nei*, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the Molokai Island Burial Council, all of which qualify as Native Hawaiian organizations as defined by 25 USC 3001 (11). Representatives of any other Native Hawaiian organization which believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains should contact Dr. Margaret Ann Hardin, Curator and Section Head, Anthropology, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007; telephone: (213) 744-3382, before December 23, 1994.

Repatriation of these human remains to *Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna 'O Hawai'i Nei* may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: November 15, 1994

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